

Khalistani leader Jagjit Singh Chohan, and the arrest of U.S. citizen Balbir Singh Dhillon on trumped-up charges.

The Sikhs feel they have no place in Indian democracy. Therefore, the Sikhs declared their independence in 1987, calling their new country Khalistan. For the people of Khalistan, the U.S. must continue to demand a full accounting of the policy of mass cremations. Additionally, we must demand the whereabouts of Mr. Khalra and the release of Mr. Dhillon.

PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH, RED BANK, NJ—A CENTURY OF SERVICE TO GOD AND COMMUNITY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, October 20, 1996, Pilgrim Baptist Church of Red Bank, NJ, will celebrate its 100th anniversary. It is an honor for me to pay tribute to this great milestone.

Pilgrim Baptist Church was founded in 1896 and has remained in Red Bank throughout that entire century of service to the community. The church's founders—who included the parents of one of Red Bank's most renowned citizens, the great bandleader Count Basie—held services in their own private homes until they were granted permission to share the facilities of the Calvary Baptist Church on Bridge Avenue. In fact, the name "Pilgrim" evolved because the founders of the congregation had to go from house to house when Calvary was not available.

In 1905, the Rev. William B. Scott was called to pastor the church and his tenure lasted for 11 years, during which time the small congregation was able to purchase the parcel of land at Pearl Street. The year 1910 marked the beginning of the construction of the historic "Little Pilgrim" on Pearl Street, which still stands and now houses St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church. Following Rev. Scott, Reverends D.K. Askew, W.B. Hebron, and W.B. Neal served as pastors. In 1945, the Rev. Henry L. Morgan was installed, and he would go on to serve for 25 years. With an increasing membership, in 1955 the congregation purchased its present building at 172 Shrewsbury Avenue. The Rev. Kenneth Grayson succeeded the Rev. Morgan, serving from 1971 until 1975. The Rev. Millard W. Harris, Jr., Pilgrim's current pastor, was installed in January 1976.

Under the leadership of Reverend Harris, the membership of Pilgrim has continued to grow. At the same time, the church has purchased rental properties on Earl and Leonard Streets, purchased vehicles, expanded the sanctuary, and built classrooms that house the Head Start program.

Mr. Speaker, it is great honor to pay tribute to Pilgrim Baptist Church for its 100 years of service to God and community. The Reverend Harris, officers of the church, and all the members of the Pilgrim family have made—and continue to make—a huge difference for the entire Red Bank and Monmouth County area. While the Pilgrim family can be proud of their first century, I know that their thoughts and prayers are clearly focused on continuing that legacy into a new century.

OMNIBUS MEAT, POULTRY, AND SEAFOOD INSPECTION LEGISLATION

HON. STEVE GUNDERSON

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. GUNDERSON. Mr. Speaker, in the last 2 years, the Livestock, Dairy and Poultry Subcommittee, which I chair, has had several hearings on meat, poultry, and seafood inspection issues with an eye on making the safest inspection system in the world even better. Our goal was to update decades-old inspection laws and to unite meat, poultry, and seafood regulations under a single roof.

Regrettably, that will not happen in the 104th Congress largely because this is an emotionally charged issue where the personal agendas of some government employees, industry executives, and consumer group lobbyist have too often prevailed. That's why, in a Presidential election year, the vast majority of my colleagues felt that this issue was "too hot to handle."

Even though legislative action was unlikely, we had our subcommittee staff, on a bipartisan basis, working on legislation that would both simplify and strengthen meat, poultry, and seafood inspection by uniting it under a single agency and encouraging greater cooperation between government and industry. While this legislation will not move in the 104th Congress, I am introducing our work product today, in draft form, for the use and information of future congresses.

I, therefore, commend the attention of my colleagues to the draft "Meat, Poultry, and Seafood Inspection Reform Act of 1996." I believe that it would make an excellent starting point for the 105th Congress on this issue.

A TRIBUTE TO SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AGENCY HONOREES

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work of the city of San Bernardino Private Industry Council and the employment and training agency, organizations that are doing fantastic work in addressing some very special job training needs on behalf of citizens in California. It was my honor earlier this week to join leaders of our local business community in recognizing four outstanding alumni of the Job Training Partnership Act Program [JTPA], as well as the outstanding business of the year and the outstanding school of the year.

Michael and Carla Davis are extraordinary examples of the value of this remarkable public-private partnership. Both were employed as engineers until they faced layoffs in 1994. Through San Bernardino's Dislocated Worker Adjustment Assistance Program, they enrolled in the teaching credential program at the University of Redlands. Within 2 years of being laid off, both Carla and Michael had their teaching credentials and quickly found teaching jobs in local school districts.

Leticia Calderon Delgado is a remarkable success story. As a young woman on welfare with three young children and few job skills, she applied remarkable determination and motivation to turning her life around. After enrolling in a work experience program and obtaining her GED, Leticia went to work for a local insurance agency. She is now off welfare and working at a job she loves.

Norma Gonzalez is a young person who, through the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program, has found a job and success that will serve her well as she pursues a college degree and, she hopes, a future in the medical field.

Accent Furniture last year relocated from Anaheim to San Bernardino to capitalize on land and building availability and to take advantage of incentives offered by the city. Today, the company is growing and serving the area by training and hiring JTPA eligible employees referred by SBETA.

The U.S. Truck Driving School is not only meeting the growing demand for trained truck drivers in the Inland Empire, it is fulfilling a valuable role in a public-private partnership that is training people and putting them to work in well-paying jobs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in recognizing the outstanding contributions of the San Bernardino Employment and Training Agency and the many fine individuals who are benefiting from the Job Training Partnership Act. In light of these tremendous records of success, it is only fitting that the House recognize all of them today.

TRIBUTE TO VERNON ODOM

HON. THOMAS C. SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 28, 1996

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with Members the loss of a man who was not only an extraordinary community leader in the 14th Congressional District of Ohio, but whose work in the National Urban League touched the lives of countless others across the country.

There are a few people who, by the very way that they live their lives, have changed entire communities, people whose actions enrich the lives of others and whose vision, perseverance, and accomplishments inspire others to succeed.

Vernon Odom, a 43-year resident of Akron, OH, was such a person. Everyone whose life he touched benefited from his wisdom, his commitment, and his strength of character.

Born in Biscoe, AR, in 1921, Mr. Odom was the son of a former slave who went on to attend medical school at Meharry in Nashville, TN, before the turn of the century. Mr. Odom's mother was widowed when he was only 2 years old. Surrounded by the racial tensions of the rural South during the 1920's and 1930's she managed to raise eight children, supervise sharecroppers, and fend off the theft of her property.

At age 16, Vernon Odom moved to Cleveland to continue his education—the school for African-Americans in his hometown only went to the 10th grade. After high school he enrolled at Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA, but soon had to postpone his studies to serve